Ammonia Plant in Kerala

6671. SHRI. KODIKKUNNIL SURESH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have given any assurance to the Government of Kerala to shift the present Ammonia Plant from its present location at Cochin and set up a new Ammonia Plant in Udyogamandal, Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the quantum of ammonia proposed to be produced therefrom every year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. CHINTA MOHAN): (a) No, Sir,

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) However , Fertilizer And Chemicals Travancore Ltd. has submitted a proposal to set up a 900 TPD Ammonia Plant at Udyogamandal, Cochin. The annual production of Ammonia will be 2.97 lakh tones. When the project is implemented, there will be no further necessity for FACT to import ammonia and consequently the ammonia unloading and storage installation at Cochin Port can be de-commissioned.

Demands of Drug Manufacturers

6672. SHRI. S.B. SIDNAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Drug Manufacturers Associations (IDMA) and Organisation of Pharmaceutical Producers of India (OPPI) have demanded that drug industry in the country should be deregulated and price control on all drugs should be abolished;

(b) if so, what are the other suggestions made by IDMA and OPPI; and

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. CHINTA MOHAN) : (a) & (b) Sir, Indian Drug Manufacturers' Association (IDMA) and Organisation of Pharmaceutical Producers of India (OPPI) have asked for discontinuation of productive price control and to allow market forces and competition to play their role in determining reasonable price levels. They have further suggested that if this is not possible exclusion criteria based solely on competition be adopted and for drugs that would still remain under price control automatic price correction formula be introduced.

(c) The Drug Policy is presently under review in all its aspects including the price control mechanism.

[*Translation*]

People below Poverty Line in Orissa

6673. SHRI. GOVINDA CHANDRA MUNDA: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) the people living below poverty line in Orissa, as per the latest survey;

(b) the various schemes under implementation to bring these people above the poverty line;

(c) whether the Union Government propose to implement some more schemes in Orissa in view of its backwardness; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?